



Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 378-3200

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

From the Requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

TO: County Clerk/County of Orange
P.O. Box 238
Santa Ana, CA 92702

State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: Orange County Water District
Planning & Watershed Management
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

PROJECT TITLE: Submission of Basin 8-1 Alternative to comply with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

APPROVAL DATE: December 21, 2016

PROJECT LOCATION: CA Department of Water Resources Basin 8-1 (primarily in north & central Orange County) – see figure on next page

CITY: Various

COUNTY: Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT: The submission of the Basin 8-1 Alternative to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act assists the Orange County Water District with documenting that Basin 8-1 identified by the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been sustainably managed over a period of at least 10 years.

NAME & ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley CA 92708

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Orange County Water District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 15269 (a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 15269(a)&(b))
- ☐ General Rule (Sec. 15061(b)(3))
- X Statutory Exemption: Section 15261, Section 15262
- X Categorical Exemption: Class 6 Section 15306

REASON(S) WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM CEQA:

Submission of the Basin 8-1 Alternative to DWR does not have the effect of approving any current or future project but instead describes a continuing process of groundwater management that OCWD has utilized in largely the same manner since prior to the enactment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in 1970. Additionally, submission of the Alternative will not cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and is therefore not a "project" regulated by CEQA. To the extent it could be considered a "project" for purposes of CEQA, the Alternative is exempt from CEQA per State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15261 (Ongoing Project), 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies), and 15306 (Information Collection and Management).



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CONTACT PERSON: Adam Hutchinson

TELEPHONE No: 714 378-3214

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: December 22, 2016

TITLE: Recharge Planning Manager

Figure showing Location of CA Department of Water Resources Basin 8-1

